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9th October 1991
NM/BMM/31542

Dear Jeff,

New U.S. Patent Application
Fabriques de Tabac Reunies SA
Your file: FTR-0110 - Our file: 31542

Thank you for your letter of 27th September 1991 to Donna Martyn.

The only prior art of which we are presently aware is that cited by the EPO in a standard search report conducted on the U.K. priority application no. 9022530.1. A copy of that search report is enclosed. You will see that all the citations were made as technological background (category A); I have no reason to disagree with the examiner on this assessment of them. The documents were all known to us at the time of filing, and the application was drafted in the light of their disclosures. Please let me know if you would like copies of any of the citations, or if you would like me to discuss their disclosure in detail in relation to the present invention.

Jack Mandiratta has enquired of the inventors, and they know of no relevant prior art other than that cited by the EPO.

Please use this information to prepare a prior art statement in due course; I will of course keep you informed of any prior art found by other Patent Offices.

Yours sincerely,



N. Marlow

c.c. J.C. Mandiratta Esq.

R&G

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